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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



In Re:
Applicants : William Martin et al.
Application Serial No.: 10/014,342
Filing Date : November 13, 2001
Title: AUTOMATICALLY-ACTIVATED HAND-SUPPORTABLE
LASER SCANNING BAR CODE SYMBOL READING
SYSTEM WITH OMNIDIRECTIONAL AND
UNIDIRECTIONAL SCANNING MODES IN ADDITION TO
A DATA TRANSMISSION ACTIVATION SWITCH
Examiner : n/a
Group Art Unit : 2876
Attorney Docket No. : 108-136USA000

Honorable Commissioner
of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-referenced Patent Application, please amend the same as follows:

AMENDMENT OF THE ABSTRACT:

Please rewrite the Abstract of Disclosure to read as follows:

Abstract of the Disclosure

--A hand-supportable bar code symbol reading device having a laser scanning engine that is controlled to selectively operate in either an omni-directional scan mode or a single line scan mode. In the single line scan mode of operation, symbol character data produced by the laser scanning engine is communicated to a host device in response to an activation signal produced by a data transmission switch. In the omni-directional scan mode, symbol character data is communicated to the host device irrespective of the activation signal. Preferably, mode selection means selectively operates the laser scanning engine in either the omni-directional scan mode of operation or the single line scan mode of operation in response to placement of the device in a

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support stand, thereby enabling automatic operation as a stationary hands-free omni-directional projection scanner (in stand), and automatic operation as a portable hand-held line scanner (out of stand).--